Allergy Safety Policy

In this policy the following members of staff are referred to:-

TITLE	NAME
Designated Allergy Lead (& SLT member)	Ambika Curbishley
Director with responsibility for allergy oversight	Deborah Livsey
School Office manager	Mara Antunes
School Sites Manager	Bonyo Dimitrov
NMS HR	Nathan Hamilton

CONTENTS

1. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES 3
2. WHAT IS AN ALLERGY? 3
3. DEFINITIONS 3
4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES 5
5. INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION 10
6. ASSESSING RISK 10
7. FOOD, INCLUDING MEALTIMES & SNACKS 11
8. EDUCATIONAL VISITS AND SPORTS FIXTURES 12

9. INSECT STINGS....13
10. ANIMALS....13
11. ALLERGIC RHINITIS/ HAY FEVER....14
12. INCLUSION AND MENTAL HEALTH....14
13. ADRENALINE DEVICES....14
14. RESPONDING TO AN ALLERGIC REACTION /ANAPHYLAXIS....15
15. TRAINING....16
16. ASTHMA....17
17. REPORTING ALLERGIC REACTIONS....17

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

This policy outlines the School's approach to allergy management, in line with the Department for Education's statutory guidance published in 2026 (Supporting children and young people with medical conditions and allergy). and the Department for Education's Allergy Safety in Schools Statutory Guidance (July 2026).

This introduces a consistent national framework for allergy safety in schools, requiring whole-school allergy policies, mandatory staff training, access to adrenaline devices, and the creation of Individual Healthcare Plans for pupils with allergies.

This policy outlines how the whole-school community works to reduce the risk of an allergic reaction occurring, and the procedures in place to respond effectively if one does. It also sets out how we support our pupils with allergies to ensure their wellbeing and inclusion, as well as demonstrating our commitment to being an allergy-aware school.

This policy applies to all staff, pupils, parents and visitors to the school and should be read alongside the other related policies, such as the **Medical Questionnaire Policy**, the **First Aid Policy, Food (Catering) Policy, EYFS policy** and the **Health and Safety Policy**.

WHAT IS AN ALLERGY?

Allergy occurs when a person reacts to a substance that is usually considered harmless. It is an immune response and instead of ignoring the substance, the body produces histamine which triggers an allergic reaction.

Whilst most allergic reactions are mild, causing minor symptoms, some can be very serious and cause anaphylaxis, which is a life-threatening medical emergency.

People can be allergic to anything, but serious allergic reactions are most commonly caused by food, insect venom (such as a wasp or bee sting), latex and medication.

An allergy is different to an intolerance. Whilst an intolerance may cause uncomfortable symptoms it does not involve the immune system.

DEFINITIONS

ANAPHYLAXIS: Anaphylaxis is a severe allergic reaction that can be life-threatening and must be treated as a medical emergency.

ALLERGEN: A normally harmless substance that, for some, triggers an allergic reaction. You can be allergic to anything. The most common allergens are food, medication, animal dander (skin cells shed by animals with fur or feathers) and pollen. Latex and wasp and bee stings are less common allergens.

Most severe allergic reactions to food are caused by just 9 foods. These are eggs, milk, peanuts, tree nuts (which includes nuts such as hazelnut, cashew nut, pistachio, almond, walnut, pecan, Brazil nut, macadamia etc), sesame, fish, shellfish, soya and wheat.

There are 14 allergens required by UK law to be highlighted on pre-packed food, referred to as the "main 14" in this template. These allergens are celery, cereals containing gluten, crustaceans, egg, fish, lupin, milk, molluscs, mustard, peanuts, tree nuts, soya, sulphites (or sulphur dioxide), and sesame.

ADRENALINE AUTO-INJECTOR: Single-use device which carries a pre-measured dose of adrenaline. Adrenaline auto-injectors are used to treat anaphylaxis by injecting adrenaline directly into the upper, outer thigh muscle. Adrenaline auto-injectors are commonly referred to as AAIs, adrenaline pens or by the brand name EpiPen. There are two brands licensed for use in the UK: EpiPen and Jext Pen. For the purposes of this Policy we will refer to them as Adrenaline Devices or ADs to include other adrenaline devices such as EURNeffy (see below).

ALLERGY ACTION PLAN: This is a document filled out by a healthcare professional, detailing a person's allergy and their treatment plan[1]

ASTHMA: Asthma is a common, long-term condition which effects the lungs. People with asthma have airways that are more sensitive and can become inflamed and narrow on exposure to certain triggers. This can lead to difficulty in breathing.

ASTHMA ACTION PLAN: This is a document filled out by a healthcare professional, detailing a person's asthma, information about triggers, symptoms, medicines to be used if they have asthma symptoms, and when to seek emergency help when they have an asthma attack.[2]

DESIGNATED ALLERGY LEAD: The member of staff responsible for overseeing allergy and asthma management across the school and acting as the main point of contact for pupils, parents and staff. This is referred to as the named senior leader in the statutory guidance.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN: A document (also known as a Critical Incident Plan) that outlines a school's procedure for managing an emergency and should be fit for purpose to manage a serious allergic reaction (anaphylaxis).

EURNEFFY: EURNeffy (also known as Neffy) is a nasal spray which delivers adrenaline. It is a needle-free alternative to an adrenaline auto-injector.

INDIVIDUAL HEALTHCARE PLAN: A detailed document outlining an individual pupil's medical conditions, history, treatment, risks and action plan. This document should be created by schools in collaboration with parents/carers and, where appropriate, pupils. All pupils with an allergy that requires active management should have an Individual Healthcare Plan and it should be read in conjunction with their Allergy Action Plan.

RISK ASSESSMENT: A detailed document outlining an activity, the risks it poses and any actions taken or to be taken to mitigate those risks. Allergy should be included in all risk assessments for events on and off the school site.

SPARE ADRENALINE DEVICES: Schools are able to purchase spare adrenaline **devices**. These should be held as a back-up, in case pupils' prescribed adrenaline **devices** are not available. They can also be used to treat a person who experiences anaphylaxis but has not been prescribed their own adrenaline.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The School takes a whole-school approach to allergy management.

Named Allergy Director

The Named Allergy Director is named at the beginning of this policy. They work in partnership with the Designated Allergy Lead to ensure allergy safety is overseen at the NMS Board level. They are responsible for:

- Ensuring allergy-related risks are included on the school's risk register and actively managed by the board of Directors;
- Providing strategic oversight of the school's Allergy Safety Policy, ensuring it is reviewed at least annually and published on the School's website;
- Acting as the Board of Directors named point of contact for allergy-related matters;
- Satisfying themselves that the school's allergy management arrangements meet legal and statutory requirements and reflect best practice;
- Receiving regular updates from the Designated Allergy Lead and ensuring the Board of Directors is appropriately briefed on allergy compliance; and
- Reviewing records of allergic reaction incidents and near-misses and ensuring the school acts on any learnings to reduce the risk of future incidents.

Designated Allergy Lead

The Designated Allergy Lead named at the beginning of this policy, is a member of the SLT and they report to the Head teacher and are responsible for:

- Leading the publication and implementation of a school-wide Allergy Safety Policy;
- Ensuring the safety, inclusion and wellbeing of pupils, staff and visitors with an allergy;
- Taking decisions on allergy management across the school;
- Championing and practising allergy and asthma awareness across the school;
- Being the overarching point of contact for staff, pupils and parents with concerns or questions about allergy management;
- Ensuring allergy information is recorded, up-to-date and communicated to all staff
- Making sure all staff are appropriately trained, have good allergy awareness and realise their role in allergy management (including what activities need an allergy risk assessment);

- Ensuring staff, pupils and parents have a good awareness of the school's Allergy Safety Policy, and other related procedures

- Reviewing the school's stock of spare adrenaline devices (checking the school has an appropriate number for the setting, that they hold the correct dose and are in date and, that spare adrenaline devices are stored appropriately) and ensuring staff know where they are;

- Keeping a record of any allergic reactions or near-misses via the Engage Allergic reaction log, reporting these to the Head teacher, NMs Board of Directors and appropriate authority (e.g. Under RIDDOR) where necessary, investigating the incidents and ensuring that the findings of investigations into incidents are used to update relevant policies and procedures.

- Regularly reviewing and updating the Allergy Safety Policy; and

- Ensuring there is an anaphylaxis drill at least once a year and that lessons learned are used to update the allergy safety policy and school procedures as appropriate.

The Designated Allergy Lead will monitor implementation of this policy, review procedures at regular intervals and report to the Head teacher team and Named Allergy Director as appropriate.

School Office Manager

is responsible for:

- Collecting and coordinating the paperwork (including Allergy Action Plans, Asthma Action Plans and Individual Healthcare Plans) and information from families to ensure that arrangements are in place before the pupil starts, or within 2 weeks for a mid-year transfer, liaising with the admissions team as needed;

- Working with HR to keep an updated list of staff with allergies (and creating an individual healthcare plan if necessary) and ensuring arrangements are in place to support them;

- Supporting the Designated Allergy Lead with disseminating this information to all school staff, including the catering team, occasional staff and those running clubs

- Ensuring the information from families is up-to-date and reviewed annually (at a minimum), coordinating medication with families and ensuring medication is in date

- Keeping an adrenaline device register to include adrenaline devices prescribed to pupils and the school's stock and location of spare adrenaline devices, including brand, dose and expiry date.;

- Regularly checking spare adrenaline devices are where they should be, are easily accessible in case of emergency, and that they are in date;

- Replacing the spare adrenaline devices when necessary;

- Providing on-site adrenaline device training for staff and pupils and refresher training as required e.g. before school trips; and

Admissions Team

The admissions team is likely to be the first to learn of a pupil or visitor's allergy. They should work with the Designated Allergy Lead and School Office Manager to ensure that:

- There is a clear method to capture allergy information or special dietary information at the earliest opportunity
- There is a clear structure in place to communicate this information to the relevant parties (i.e. school office manager);
- Parents and applicants are informed of catering arrangements during admission events;
- Plans are made for emergency medication if the child is to be left without parental supervision; and
- There is liaison with the child's previous school, or future school to ensure a smooth transition between settings.

All staff

All school staff, including teaching staff, support staff, occasional staff (for example music teachers and those running morning and afterschool clubs are responsible for:

- Championing and practising allergy and asthma awareness across the school;
- Reading, understanding and putting into practice the Allergy Safety Policy and related procedures, and asking for support if needed;
- Being aware of pupils (and staff, when necessary) with allergies and what they are allergic to;
- Considering the risk to pupils with allergies posed by any activities and assessing whether the use of any allergen in activity is necessary and/or appropriate;
- Ensuring pupils always have access to their medication, including carrying it on their behalf if necessary;
- Being able to recognise and respond to an allergic reaction, including anaphylaxis, after appropriate training;
- Taking part in training and anaphylaxis drills as required (at least once a year). Whilst it is the school's responsibility to ensure staff have received annual training, if the member of staff is aware they have not received any allergy training in the last 12 months they should alert their line manager and NMS HR (who can arrange the training)

- Considering the safety, inclusion and wellbeing of pupils with allergies at all times. Preventing and responding to allergy-related bullying, in line with the school's anti-bullying policy;

- Forwarding any communication or information that comes directly to them from parents regarding allergens to the Allergy Lead and

- Ensuring that pupils have their medication and their Allergy Action Plan or Individual Health Care Plan with them when leaving the school site for a match or trip.

All parents

All parents and carers (whether their child has an allergy or not) are responsible for:

- Being aware of and understanding the school's Allergy Safety Policy and considering the safety, inclusion, and wellbeing of pupils with allergies;

- Providing School office manager with information about their child's medical needs, including dietary requirements and allergies, history of their allergy, any previous allergic reactions or anaphylaxis. They should also inform the school of any related conditions, for example asthma, hay fever, rhinitis or eczema;

- Considering and adhering to any food restrictions or guidance the school has in place when providing food, for example in packed lunches, as snacks or for fundraising events;

- Refraining from telling the school their child has an allergy or intolerance if this is a preference or dietary choice; and

- Encouraging their child to be allergy aware.

Parents of children with allergies

In addition the parents and carers of children with allergies should:

- Work with the school to fill out an Individual Healthcare Plan and provide an accompanying Allergy Action Plan;

- If applicable, provide the school or their child with two labelled adrenaline devices and any other medication, for example antihistamine (with a dispenser, ie. spoon or syringe), inhalers or creams;

- Ensure medication is in-date and replaced at the appropriate time;

- Ensure their child has access to their allergy medication, including two adrenaline devices, if prescribed, on the journey to and from school;

- Update the school with any changes to their child's condition and ensure the relevant paperwork is updated too;
- The school will take a photograph of their child for identification purposes and parents must sign the associated permission form for it to be shared appropriately as part of their allergy management; and
- Support their child to understand their allergy diagnosis, advocate for themselves, and take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of an allergic reaction occurring e.g. not eating the food to which they are allergic.

All pupils

All pupils at the school should:

- Be allergy aware;
- Understand the risks that allergens might pose to their peers and respect measures to support them;
- Learn how they can support the wellbeing of their peers and be alert to allergy-related bullying.

Pupils with allergies

In addition to the above, pupils with allergies, as appropriate to their age and capability, are responsible for:

- Knowing what their allergies are and how to mitigate personal risk;
- Avoiding their allergen as best as they can;
- Understanding the importance of following the school specific processes of lunch and snack and how that mitigates risk;
- Understanding that they should notify a member of staff if they are not feeling well, or suspect they might be having an allergic reaction;
- Carrying two adrenaline auto-injectors with them at all times;
- Understanding how and when to use their adrenaline auto-injector and only using them for their intended purpose;
- Talking to the Designated Allergy Lead or a member of staff if they are concerned by any school processes or systems related to their allergy;
- Raising concerns with a member of staff if they experience any inappropriate behaviour in relation to their allergies;

- Ensuring they have their medication with them on the journey to and from school.

INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION

Register of pupils and staff with an allergy

The school has a register of pupils and record of staff who have a diagnosed allergy. This includes children and staff who have a history of anaphylaxis or have been prescribed adrenaline devices, as well as pupils and staff with an allergy where no adrenaline devices have been prescribed.

Individual Healthcare Plans

Each pupil with an allergy requiring active management by the school has an Individual Healthcare Plan. The information on this plan includes:

- Known allergens, risk factors for allergic reactions and any adaptations needed;
- A history of their allergic reactions;
- If the pupil has asthma and any other medical conditions and necessary detail;
- Details of the medication that the pupil has been prescribed, including their dose, this should include adrenaline devices, antihistamine etc;
- A copy of parental consent to administer medication, including the use of spare adrenaline devices in case of suspected anaphylaxis, and asthma inhalers;
- An indication of how the child's condition may impact on their learning or wellbeing;
- If the child is able to take responsibility for their condition including in an emergency;
- A photograph of each pupil and emergency contact details; and
- A copy of their Allergy and/or Asthma Action Plan, if provided

ASSESSING RISK

Allergens can crop up in unexpected places. Staff (including visiting staff) will consider allergies in all activity planning and include it in risk assessments. Some examples include:

- Classroom activities, for example craft using food packaging, science experiments where allergens are present, food lessons or cooking;
- Bringing animals into the school, for example a dog or hatching chick eggs can pose a risk;

- Running activities or clubs where they might hand out snacks or food "treats". Ensure safe food is provided or consider an alternative non-food treat for all pupils; and

- Planning special events, such as cultural days and celebrations.

Inclusion of pupils with allergies must be considered alongside safety and they should not be excluded. If necessary, staff should adapt the activity. The School will ensure compliance with the Equality Act 2010.

FOOD, INCLUDING MEALTIMES & SNACKS

Catering in school

The School has no catering facilities to prepare school lunches. Parents have the option of providing a packed lunch for their child or purchasing a hot lunch prepared and delivered to the school by our catering contractor. The caterer provides safe and inclusive meals for those children and staff who choose this option. including those with food allergies. For open mornings and other admissions events the School provides limited snacks and drinks only and advises visitors accordingly.

- Due diligence is carried out with regard to allergen management when appointing catering providers;

- All catering staff employed by our Catering contractor and other staff preparing food will receive relevant and appropriate allergen awareness training;

- Contractor Catering staff are available via email and 'phone to discuss the provision of allergen safe meals with parents/ carers;

- Any school staff involved with serving food for those with allergies will follow good hygiene practices, food safety and allergen management procedures;

- The contractor catering team will endeavour to get to know the pupils with allergies and what their allergies are, supported by school staff;

- The contractor catering team will endeavour to provide varied meal options to students and staff with allergies;

- The school has robust procedures in place to identify pupils with food allergies, these are

  - Updated lists of pupils with known allergies shared regularly with staff

  - Updated lists with photographs displayed in School hall where lunch is served

    the staff kitchen, staff room and school office.

- Dishes and menus containing the main 14 allergens (see Allergens definition) will be clearly identified using full words, not symbols or abbreviations when parents are placing orders for their children's lunches. Other ingredient information will be available on request.

- Information on allergens will be available for the pupil to check independently;
- Pre-packaged food is not available in the school but steps would be taken to ensure that it complies with PPDS legislation (Natasha's Law) requiring the allergen information to be displayed on the packaging;
- Where changes are made to the ingredients which involve the introduction of a known allergen this will be communicated to parents of pupils with dietary needs by the contractor catering company
- Please see the Appendix 2 of our Early Years Policy which details the relevant procedures for ensuring safer eating for our Reception pupils, including the collection of information about known allergies and dietary requirements before the child joins the school in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage statutory guidance.
- Whilst there is currently no food provided for before or after school clubs, any food provided in the school day (such as hot chocolate with the Head) will follow these procedures;
- The Contract caterer excludes food with nuts as an ingredient

Food brought into school and Food bans or restrictions

This school is an Allergen Aware school. We have students with a wide range of allergies to different foods, so we encourage a considered approach to bringing in food. The School is a nut free environment and this is explained to all parents when they join the school and reminders are issued at the beginning of each year.

Reminders are also given when parents/pupils might be asked to bring in food for a special event, such as cultural day or a charity bake sale.

Birthday cakes brought in to school must be clearly labelled with the ingredients and given to the school office manager for checking before distribution.

Food hygiene for pupils

- The school will encourage pupils to wash their hands with soap and warm water before and after eating;
- Parents/carers and pupils will be advised that water bottles and packed lunches should be clearly labelled and food should not be shared or swapped; and
- Throwing food is not allowed.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS AND SPORTS FIXTURES

- Staff leading the trip will have a register of pupils with allergies and details of their medication. Staff should notify the trip leader if they themselves have any allergies;

- Allergies will be considered on the risk assessment and catering provision put in place;
- Parents, may be consulted if considered necessary, or if the trip requires an overnight stay;
- Staff accompanying the trip will be trained to recognise and respond to an allergic reaction;
- Allergens will be clearly labelled on catered packed lunches
- See Adrenaline Devices section for School Trips and Sports Fixtures.
- All children with a known allergy who have an allocated epipen or inhaler have allocated bags containing the devices. These remain with the child at all times including any trips outside of the school site, including sports fixtures.

INSECT STINGS

The school office maintains a supply of antihistamine if a child is stung by an insect.

Those with a known insect venom allergy should:

- Avoid walking around in bare feet or sandals when outside and when possible keep arms and legs covered
- Keep food and drink covered.

The school Sites manager will monitor the grounds for wasp or bee nests. Pupils (with or without allergies) should notify a member of staff if they find a wasp or bee nest in the school grounds and avoid them.

ANIMALS

It's normally the dander (flakes of skin) saliva or urine that causes a person with an animal allergy to react.

Precautions to limit the risk of an allergic reaction include:

- A pupil with a known animal allergy should avoid the animal to which they are allergic;
- If an animal comes on site a risk assessment will be done prior to the visit;
- Areas visited by animals will be cleaned thoroughly;
- Anyone in contact with an animal will wash their hands after contact;
- School trips that include visits to animals will be carefully risk assessed.

ALLERGIC RHINITIS/ HAY FEVER

- For children who have known dust/pollen allergies parents provide antihistamine medicine with details of the dosage which is held securely in the school office and administered in line with our usual procedures.

- The School office keeps a supply of over the counter antihistamine medication, for children who suffer occasionally, however this is only administered after permission has been received from the parents.

INCLUSION AND MENTAL HEALTH

Allergies can have a significant impact on mental health and wellbeing. Pupils may experience anxiety and depression and are more susceptible to bullying.

- Staff are alert to the possibility of allergy-related bullying and are proactive in safeguarding the wellbeing and inclusion of pupils with allergies;

- No child should be excluded from taking part in a school activity, whether on the school premises or a school trip because of their allergies;

- Pupils with allergies may require additional pastoral support including regular check-ins from their class teacher.

- Affected pupils will be given consideration in advance of wider school discussions about allergy and school Allergy Awareness initiatives;

- Bullying related to allergy will be treated in line with the school's anti-bullying policy; and

- Uniform policies take into account that children may need emergency medication near them at all times.

ADRENALINE DEVICES

See the government guidance on Adrenaline Devices in Schools.

Storage of adrenaline devices

- Pupils prescribed with adrenaline devices will have easy access to two, in-date devices at all times;

- Pupils with prescribed adrenaline devices have these with them at all times, they are contained in bags with straps to enable easy portability. They are kept in their classrooms and go with the pupil throughout the day ie to PE, lunch or on a school trip

- Spot checks will be made to ensure adrenaline devices are where they should be and in date;

- Adrenaline devices must not be kept locked away or in rooms with restricted access;
- Adrenaline devices should be stored at moderate temperatures (see manufacturer's guidelines), not in direct sunlight or above a heat source (for example a radiator); and
- Used or out of date devices should be disposed of as sharps.

Spare adrenaline devices

This school has spare adrenaline devices to be used in accordance with government guidance.

The locations of spare adrenaline devices are clearly signposted. These are kept upstairs in the Staff room and downstairs in the School hall where lunch is served

The Allergy Lead and School office manager are responsible for:

- Deciding how many spare devices are required
- What dosage is required, based on the Resuscitation Council UK's age-based guidance
- Which brand(s) to buy. Schools are recommended to buy a single brand if possible to avoid confusion;
- The purchasing of spare adrenaline devices.
- Distribution around the school site and clear signage.

Adrenaline devices on off-site activities

- No child with a prescribed adrenaline devices will be able to go on a school trip without two of their own devices. It is the trip leader's responsibility to check they have them;
- Adrenaline devices will be kept close to the pupils at all times e.g. not stored in the hold of the coach when travelling or left in changing rooms;
- Adrenaline devices will be protected from extreme temperatures;
- Staff accompanying the pupils will be aware of pupils with allergies and be trained to recognise and respond to an allergic reaction; and
- Consider whether to take spare adrenaline devices to off-site activities. This should be recorded as part of the risk assessment process.

RESPONDING TO AN ALLERGIC REACTION / ANAPHYLAXIS

See the appendix to this policy for details of how to recognise and respond to an allergic reaction.

In all cases:

- A pupil with a known allergy should be treated in accordance with their Allergy Action Plan and/or Individual Healthcare Plan.
- If anaphylaxis is suspected adrenaline should be administered without delay, using the school's spare device if needed.
- Anyone who has had suspected anaphylaxis and received adrenaline must go to hospital, even if they appear to have recovered. A member of staff should accompany the pupil in an ambulance until a parent or guardian arrives.

Depending on the circumstances, it may be necessary to instigate the school's wider Emergency Response Plan

TRAINING

The school is committed to ensuring that all staff receive regular (at least annual) allergy awareness training. This training should cover all staff, including teaching staff, support staff, contractor catering staff, site staff and others who may oversee children at before or after-school clubs.

This training will cover:

- Understanding what an allergy is;
- How to reduce the risk of an allergic reaction occurring;
- How to recognise and treat an allergic reaction, including anaphylaxis;
- How to treat an asthma attack using a reliever inhaler;
- How the school manages allergy, for example understanding the school's Allergy Safety Policy, emergency response, documentation, communication etc;
- How to check who has an allergy, and how to use an IHP and Allergy or Asthma Action Plan;
- Where adrenaline devices are kept (both prescribed devices and spare devices) and how to access them;
- The importance of inclusion of pupils with food allergies, the impact of allergy on mental health and wellbeing and the risk of allergy related bullying;
- Understanding food labelling;
- How to report an allergic reaction or near miss; and
- Taking part in an anaphylaxis drill.

The school will carry out an anaphylaxis drill once a year. This involves an exercise simulating an event where a pupil or member of staff has an allergic reaction and testing the whole school response.

ASTHMA

The school understands that it is vital that pupils with allergies keep their asthma well controlled. Asthma can exacerbate allergic reactions and poorly managed asthma increases the severity of an allergic reaction.

- Staff will be aware of common asthma triggers which may include airborne allergens such as pollen, house dust mite, mould spores or pet dander and food allergens.

- All pupils with asthma will have an Asthma Action Plan. Where relevant, an Asthma Action Plan will be in addition to an Allergy Action Plan

- The Asthma Action Plan will be included in the pupil's Individual Healthcare Plan, and will include medical and parental consent for staff to administer medicines, including an emergency reliever inhaler in the event of an asthma attack.

- Children and young people known to have asthma should have their own reliever inhaler at school at all times and on the journey to and from school.

- Where a pupil is able to manage their asthma themselves, they should keep their inhaler on them. If they cannot, it should be stored in a clearly labelled, easily accessible location.]

REPORTING ALLERGIC REACTIONS

The school will log all allergic reaction incidents and near-misses as soon as is feasible after they occur.

- Each record should include: Who was affected, what happened, when and where, why the incident occurred (as far as is known), how staff and the pupil responded; what was done to support the individual; whether emergency services were called and how the incident concluded

- All incident reports should be shared with:

    - the pupil's parents or carers, who will be given the opportunity to discuss the incident and contribute their views to the review; and

    - the Named Allergy Director and the Board of Directors, so they can consider what lessons to learn and whether policy changes are required.

- Any learning from an incident should be shared appropriately with staff so they can act on it.

- It may be necessary to share the report with other agencies, for example:

    - Incidents arising directly from a work activity that result in death or immediate hospitalisation must be reported to the Health and Safety Executive under RIDDOR.

- Following any incident or near miss the school will meet with the child and their parents/ carers to ensure they are confident the setting remains safe.

- The school recognises the impact of an incident or near miss not just on the individual and their family, but also on staff who responded and children who witnessed it and will offer appropriate support.

Mia Santa-Humfrey
Head teacher
September 2026

Review approved by Deborah Livsey CEO
New Model School Company Limited
September 2026

Next review date: August 2027

MANAGING ALLERGIC REACTIONS

ALLERGIC REACTIONS VARY

Allergic reactions are unpredictable and can be affected by factors such as illness or hormonal fluctuations.

You cannot assume someone will react the same way twice, even to the same allergen.

Reactions are not always linear. They don't always progress from mild to moderate to more serious; sometimes they are life-threatening within minutes.

MILD TO MODERATE ALLERGIC REACTIONS

Symptoms include:

- Swollen lips, face or eyes
- Itchy or tingling mouth
- Hives or itchy rash on skin
- Abdominal pain
- Vomiting
- Change in behaviour

Response:

- Stay with pupil
- Call for help
- Locate adrenaline devices
- Give antihistamine. Note: if any signs of anaphylaxis are present, give adrenaline without delay.
- Make a note of the time
- Phone parent or guardian
- Continue to monitor the pupil for at least 60 minutes in case the reaction gets worse

SERIOUS ALLERGIC REACTIONS / ANAPHYLAXIS

The most serious type of reaction is called **ANAPHYLAXIS**. Anaphylaxis is uncommon, and children experiencing it almost always fully recover.

In rare cases, anaphylaxis can be fatal. It should always be treated as a time-critical medical emergency.

Anaphylaxis usually occurs within 20 minutes of eating a food but can begin 2-3 hours later.

People who have never had an allergic reaction before, or who have only had mild to moderate allergic reactions previously, can experience anaphylaxis.

RESPONDING TO ANAPHYLAXIS

SYMPTOMS OF ANAPHYLAXIS

A – Airway

- Persistent cough
- Hoarse voice
- Difficulty swallowing
- Swollen Tongue

B – Breathing

- Difficult or noisy breathing
- Wheeze or cough

C - Circulation

- Persistent dizziness
- Pale or floppy
- Sleepy
- Collapse or unconscious

IF YOU SUSPECT ANAPHYLAXIS, GIVE ADRENALINE FIRST BEFORE YOU DO ANYTHING ELSE.

DELIVERING ADRENALINE

1. Treat the patient where they are. Take the medication to the patient, rather than moving them.
2. The patient should be lying down with legs raised. If they are having trouble breathing, they can sit with legs outstretched.
3. It is not necessary to remove clothing but make sure you're not injecting into thick seams, buttons, zips or even a mobile phone in a pocket.
4. Inject adrenaline into the upper outer thigh according to the manufacturer's instructions. Pupils may be able to do this themselves, but some will require or want adult support. Whilst all members of staff should be trained, in an emergency, anyone can administer adrenaline.
5. Make a note of the time you gave the first dose.
6. Call 999 for an ambulance (or get someone else to do this while you give adrenaline). Tell them you have given adrenaline for anaphylaxis.
7. Stay with the patient and do not let them get up or move, even if they are feeling better (this can cause cardiac arrest).
8. Call the pupil's emergency contact.

9. If their condition has not improved or symptoms have got worse, give a second dose of adrenaline after 5 minutes, using a second device. Call 999 again and tell them you have given a second dose and to check that help is on the way.

10. Start CPR if necessary.

11. Hand over used devices to paramedics and remember to get replacements.

12. Anyone who has had suspected anaphylaxis and received adrenaline must go to hospital, even if they appear to have recovered. A member of staff should accompany them in an ambulance until a parent or guardian arrives.

For more information see the Government's Guidance for the use of adrenaline auto-injectors in schools.